



America's Great Outdoors
San Gabriel Listening Session
July 7, 2010
Whittier Narrows, Ca

Comment Summary

Steve Kuo

It is awesome to have a forum like this so people, federal & local government, and agencies can work together to save our natural resources. People don't know about your events or activities or programs. You need publicity. More publicity events so people know how to be involved. Have local conservation agencies organize activities and events so people can contribute. Use facebook, email, internet.

Joseph Gonzales

Mayor Pro Tem

City of South El Monte

South El Monte

1. Assistance in making Santa Anita Bridge more friendly to bikes and pedestrians. City has design but needs funds for engineering and construction. 2. Support Light Rail- Goldline extension which will bring more visitors to this recreation site.

James A. McGregor

M.D.

USC Keck School of Medicine

1. Create wilderness corridors for both plant and animal continuity. 2. Continue efforts to clean air. 3. "CCC" conservation Corp. 4. Create local parks

Ansley Davies

Associate Curator

LA County Dept. of Parks and Recreation, Planning & Development Agency

Los Angeles

1. Funding to maintain facilities and keep programming going. 2. Website info and countrywide events. 3. Provide more funding to State and Local Agencies. 4. Workshops in Secretary of the Interior's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Resources.

Gabi McLean
California Native Plant Society
Covina

1. San Gabriel Mtns National Park. 2. have public transportation to and inside the NP (San Gabriel Mtn). 3. Have programs for children and teenagers, innovation mental education in the field, SGV Mtns

Diane Bonanno
Friends of Coyote Hills; Audobon Society; Sierra Club
Fullerton

A San Gabriel River NRA is incomplete without the inclusion of the lower watershed. The arbitrary cutoff at the Habral Santa Fe Springs diminishes the importance of the lower watershed and deprives the millions of people living there of the opportunities a local NRA would provide.

Sergio Jimenez
LA Historical Society

A strategy for reconnecting people to rivers is to recognize historical sites, indigenous settlement for Barrios that once existed along the banks of local rivers with signage and or historical interest markers.

April Wakeman
Sportfishing Conservancy
Access

Kristin Wiberg
Whittier College
Whittier
Access to public parks and beaches

Clifford McLean
Sierra Club, CNPS
Covina
Chapparal

Sherry Breidenthel
Sierra Club
Civilian conservation corp. should come back.

Andy Perry
Los Angeles
Community Gardens

Juan Gonzalez
San Gabriel Valley Conservation Corps
El Monte
Conservation

David Siegrist
California Senior Legislature
Construction of homes and condos continue in our foothills, mountains, and coasts. Will we ever have a moratorium on this? Why don't we replant our forests? Have any agencies looked into sprinkler systems and water tank storage facilities to fight fire?

Andrew Salas
Gabrieleno Tribe
Culture Center for San Gabriel tribe.

anonymous
Development of pressure in the suburban/urban areas and not enough investments in protecting their places. Full fun.

Michael Barla
Friends of Whittier Narrows
Pico Rivera
Endangered species

Michelle Lesse
Girl Scouts of Greater Los Angeles
Arcadia
Enlist organizations such as girl scouts to engage in community education efforts. The focus of girl scouting is to build leaders. One of our strongest beliefs is to explore and preserve the national environment.

Lynne Plambeck
Santa Clarita Organization for Planning and the Environment (SCOPE)
Santa Clarita
EPA has stated a goal of protecting watersheds. Please state how the agencies will work together to move development out of the floodplains so that natural river systems can exist. Need more formal engagement in partnerships that steer development away from flood plains.

Erica Flores Baltado
The City Project
Los Angeles
Equal Access

Joel Griffith
Whittier Narrows Equestrian Center
Whittier
Equestrian Activities

Luis Campos
Liga Maravilla
Es necesario tener mas parques de beisbol (translate: We need more beisball fields).

Robert Ihly
AMIGO
Aliso Viejo
Exercise Parks for kids and adults

Dan Hernandez
Dan Hernandez Youth Foundation
Cerritos
Fishing

Tom Raftican
Sportfishing Conservancy
Long Beach
Fishing

Kristin
Whittier College
For the students and faculty of Whittier College- who use our parks, beaches, and wilderness for research and recreation- the biggest challenge is public transportation. How are our governments and NGOs working together to improve access?

Joe Castillo
Native Sons of the Golden West
Gabrieleno's

Deborah Enos
Project Manager
Watershed Conservation Authority
Rowland Heights
Green Corridors

Letty Brooks
Whittier Audubon
Whittier
Habitat

Mary Rodriguez

Small Group of Residents from Diamond Bar, CA

Having thirteen local governments is a great obstacle for the San Gabriel River. They want to develop all land for money. No funds for "open space." I have tried everything that is within my power to preserve the last 28.6 acres of undeveloped land in Diamond Bar. Nothing Works! 15 and 16 local government is out of control. They do as they please.

Sergio Jimenez

La Historia Historical Society

Monrovia

Historical Barrio Settlements along river

Maria Torres

Amigos de los Rios

Hope our environment gets better.

Art Negrete

Pellissier Village Association

Whittier

Horse Trails

Terry Young

SGMRC

How are open spaces connected to sustainability of our water?

Jim Blomquist

NRA

How can we best integrate the Angeles National Forest into the recreational needs of the surrounding communities?

Renatta Cooper

Board Member

Pasadena Unified School District

I agree that the San Gabriel Mtns should become a National Recreation Area. Extensive education, adult & adolescence, must be part of the initiative in order to properly care for and maintain the area.

Mariel Reyes

La Puente Youth Group

I am a native of the San Gabriel Valley and grew up going to the San Gabriel Mtns. It has changed my life and have experienced the effect of its deterioration due to lack of funding. Designation of the San Gabriel Mtns as National Recreation Area is no longer an option but a necessity.

Dan Hernandez

Dan Hernandez Youth Foundation

I have a foundation that takes kids fishing. We need funding to charter boats to take kids out for ocean fishing. We work mainly with kids who have never been fishing before. We also host fishing quests at inner city lakes. www.danskids.org

Carolin Atchison

Friends of the River

Stuido City

I look forward to seeing permanent federal protection for 66 miles of WSRs and 30,000 acres of wilderness in eastern SG mountains; also, money for U.S. FSCANF to do WSR comprehensive MSF plus studies.

Bee Simpson

I worry about inviting still more users to mtns. We are frequent visitors to W. Narrows & the San Gabriel Mtns. We pick up "trash and dirty diapers" the congresswoman referred to. If people pack in their fast food and clean diapers, they should take them out. Regarding the fires in August, we are shocked people have not yet been fired. The inept dysfunctional forest service supervisor is obvious.

Susan Maclean

If everyone is so adamant about "outdoors," how can you condone the discovery center that turns the great outdoors into a huge indoor while destroying the outdoors. Also, having county service actually do something to fix what they have already. How are you planning on accommodating the deaf and hard of hearing?

Mark Granado

Whittier

Incorporate/partner with the Dept. of Education to introduce learning about our forests and lands. Children at young ages will learn to respect and have pride about their land. It will promote patriotism.

Fran Hubert

Gariel Tribe,

Native Sons of the Golden West

Covina

Indian Cultural Center & Museum

Denice Thoman

Los Angeles Rifles and Revolvers Club

Long Beach

LAR&R

Sam Thoman
Los Angeles Rifles and Revolvers Club
Long Beach
LAR&R

Tony Escobar
Let's make this happen through awareness and outreach. We do need as much help we can to advocate our open spaces. Having a dedicated website for comments should be a part of this. Also, is the Obama administration supporting the Keystone XL Pipeline extension? I'm from TX.

Mary Ann Ruiz
Sierra Club-Chino
Chino
Looking for additional wilderness protection and creation of san Gabriel mountains recreational area. Critical need for more recreational resources!

David Kimes
Los Angeles Rifles and Revolvers Club
La Palma
Marksmanship

Larry Renger
Knights of the Round Circle
rancho santa margarita
Modelaircraft and boats

Bob Stevenson
Friends of Coyote Hills
Fullerton
Nature Preserve in Urban Setting

Antonio Mendoza Calderon
San Gabriel Valley Conservation Core
El Monte
New projects for the community

David Siegrist
Calif. Senior Legislature
El Monte
Oceans & Fishing

Esthela Torres de Siegrist
El Monte Union H.S.D.
El Monte
Oceans & Lakes

Monica Eitnier
John Muir Dem. Club
Bellflower
Oceans, specifically Long Beach

Erik Counseller
Sierra Club-Pasadena
Pasadena
Our amazing local San Gabriel Mtns are an amazing place. More wilderness would improve them for future generations. Also a greater partnership with Parks Service would better serve the many forest visitors.

Nancy M. Begg
SGMRC; San Gabriel Valley Council; Boy Scouts of America
Outdoor Code Boy Scouts of America Conservation Good. Turn National Public Lands Day. Promote Earth Day. More Nature Centers.

John Monsen
Sierra Club
Tujunga
Park-poor San Gabriel Valley communities need to be better connected to the San Gabriel Mountains and River recreational opportunities. What can you do to help us get a San Gabriel Mtns National Recreational Area to help make these connections?

Aaron Montenegro
Amigos de los Rios
Participation and recognition of the indigenous people's with the san Gabriel mtns. Greater education for local impoverished and indigenous communities of how to access the san Gabriel mtns.

Richard Lopez
Amigos de los Rios
Plant more trees in parks and rec.

Mary Rodriguez
Diamond Bar
Preserving Site D

Maria Salazar
COFEM
Que bueno que esta administracion del Presidente Obama nos envio para que escuchen de la gran necesidad por proteger estas montanas de San Gabriel (translate: How great that President Obama's administration sent a delegation to hear from us about the great need to protect our San Gabriel Mountains)

Bob Bruesch
Board Member
Garvey School District
Rosemead/San Gabriel/Monterey Park
Reauthorization of No Child Left Behind. Make sure that the National Standards have elements of Environmental Education so that our next generation appreciates and protects our "Great Outdoors"

Hammer Sui
Los Angeles Rifles and Revolvers Club
West Covina
Rifle Range

Nancy Begg
San Gabriel Mountains Regional Conservancy
Santa Fe Dam Nature Center

Julio Lopez
LAR&R
Save and expand the Los Angeles Rifle & Revolver Club. Marksmanship is an American pastime with a unique opportunity to train and prepare American Olympic athletes.

Henrietta Salazar
Friends of Whittier Narrows
Pico Rivera
Save space and endangered birds and bird sanctuaries

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Henrietta Salazar
Whittier Narrows Nature Center Associates
Save the bird sanctuary and prevent building soccer fields on river trails or spending millions on trails with landscape. It will bring trash going in the river.

Elizabeth Allen
Water Task Force
League of Women Voters of Claremont
Claremont
Saving Thompson Creek

Rick Halsey

California Chaparral Institute

Southern California's native shrublands are threatened by high fire frequencies and misunderstandings. We can help ensure their protection by changing how they are managed and valued within the regions for national forests via our proposed chaparral preservation plan. We would love to discuss our ideas with you. Most of the land within So. California's national forests are covered by native shrublands, especially chaparral. How can we help the public and government agencies better understand and appreciate these fragile ecosystems?

Marcia Schmitz

Los Angeles Resident

Los Angeles

Thank you for holding these sessions to hear about the importance of the San Gabriel Mtns to this urban region. For such a beautiful place, the heavy use causes intolerable conditions- overflowing trash, no parking, no clean toilets. We need the resources to improve access to the precious resources of the San Gabriel's.

anonymous

The Forest Service budget has dwindled because of all the money needed to fight fires. We would like to see the Administration encourage more funding for recreation.

Tim Martinez

(from Pasadena)

The issue of trash in our open space was mentioned. I've been to the San Gabriel river and it is polluted. It appeared as if a dump truck was emptied into it. Most trash everywhere is petrochemical trash which doesn't break down, especially plastic and Styrofoam. So much trash is pumped out in our society that it cannot be contained on our continents and forms continents of their own in the sea. I have friends who will not stop littering their cigarette butts no matter what I say. I feel humans have proven incapable of properly disposing of such waste. I do believe, however, that the quality of trash may be changed. Invest in bio-degradable alternatives to packaging for all land and for the 21st century.

Daniel Ramos

Dine/Apache/Tgonva Rep/ VELA/NALA

Montebello

The native people of this area need the respect of this project. To encourage ceremonies and prayers in the San Gabriel Mountains. Willing to teach our traditions. Respect & honor of nature and caring for her.

Larry Renger

Knights of the Round Circle

There are only three remaining Model Aircraft fields in the greater LA/Orange County region. We need these to remain available!

Seth Strongin
The City Project
Los Angeles

There has been a great Transit to Trails program in the Santa Monica Mountains. What can we do to get a Transit to Trails program in the San Gabriel Mtns?

Emily Stork
Recreation & Parks Commission, City of Pasadena
Pasadena

There is a recreational need for transportation to and from open spaces, parks, and the national forest. Alternative forms of transport, including biking, need to be supported.

Sue Brown
To protect the San Gabriel Mountains, it is critical to add additional acreage to the "Wilderness Designation." Keeping wilderness pristine and roadless is essential. We also need to establish a National Recreation Area for more visitor service and staff.

Art Zuniga
Gabrieleno Tribe
San Gabriel
To strongly preserve the Whittier Narrows Area

Claire Robinson
Amigos de los Rios
Altadena
Trails

Suzanne Avila
US Forest Service, City of Azusa
Azusa
Watersheds

Lette Brooks
Whittier Audobon
We look forward to seeing programs to protect species diversity getting funded. What is good for habitat protection is good for people.

Ernest P. Salas
Gabrieleno Tribe
We need land and a culture center to serve as a meeting place for our people.

anonymous
We need more "real green jobs" that help our youth build and care for open spaces. Green jobs can't only be solar jobs.

Florencia Lopez
COFEM
Los Angeles
We need more open space for communities.

Nicholas Sanchez
No on Site D Rezoning
Diamond Bar
We need more parks in Diamond Bar. Population of 60k. Obstacles- development greed, local government indifference. We need funding to maintain wildlife corridor. Federal Funds purchase to preserve land.

Andrea Gullo
Habitat Authority; Puente Hills Landfill Native Habitat Preservation Authority (PHLNHPA)
Whittier
We support a National Recreation Area for the Puente Hills! We welcome a partnership with the National Park Service.

anonymous
We wanted the administration to know that more resources are needed for rangers and enforcement in the forest. There is way too much damage being done by illegal off road vehicles for example.

Maureen Allen
LA County Science Fair; Alliance for Retired Americans
What a great goal! The speakers were wonderful. Now will we see it happen? We need the government to make the schools embrace science and urge students to participate in science - promote science fairs throughout the entire country. My next door neighbor just graduated from UCLA in environmental studies but cant get a job. Why?

Karen Suarez
Monrovia
When is a year or two of service going into action?

Michael Barba
Whittier Narrows Nature Center Associates
Why destroy the most lovely eleven acres (bldg & trees over 70 years old - Redwood, Sycamore, Live Oak). As well as habitat for bird species, including the endangered Least Bell's Vario to build an Interpretive Center?

Sam Roberts
President of the Board of Directors
CA Wilderness Coalition
Millbrae
Wilderness

Sally Esquivel

President

John Muir Democratic Club

Bellflower

Will you add more nature areas along the San Gabriel River, protect sacred areas and prevent toxic or nuclear companies from locating near these areas?

anonymous

Work to proactively identify federal policy challenges that are likely to stall our vision

John Gonzales

Senior Citizen

You say we want open space! Don't lose open space by building the Discovery Center monstrosity!

Tiffany Saleh

Sierra Club

Los Angeles

Youth on Public Lands